ABSTRACT OF THE PH.D. THESIS

(In the Subject of Geography)

Title

"GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN OSMANABAD DISTRICT (M.S.)"

Submitted to

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February, 2016

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Introduction:

Geography is concerned with the arrangement of things on the surface of the earth. It is one of the fields, interested in man's use of space and natural resources. It examine the bonds between man, culture and land form a comparative regional view point and can initially be approached from the natural (Earth Science) and cultural (Social Science and Humanities) side. Geographers contend that human societies can be fully understood only if their behavior and activities are examined against the background of space they occupy, their situation (Relative location in terms of both natural and cultural patterns) and present prospective resources and resistance facing them.

Economic Geography is concerned with the distribution of man's productive activities over the surface of the earth. These activities we commonly divide into three kinds, primary activities are those which obtain simple commodities or raw materials form the soil, sea and rocks. They are agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining etc. These goods are then manufactured processed or fabricated in factories and workshops. This constitutes the secondary group of activities. It rarely happens, however, that a manufacturing process can be completed without making use of transportation services, insurance agents, brokers and dealers. These services constitute tertiary activities.

Social Geography can be defined as identification of different regions of the earth surface according to association of social phenomena related to total environment. It is a study of patterns and processes in understanding socially defined population in spatial setting. It is a study

of areal pattern and functional relations of social groups in the context of their social environment.

Human development and improvement in the quality of life have always remained the ultimate focus of all disciplines and main objective of planning. Since the inception of the Five-Year Plan in the early fifties, the history of planning shows that though the government has been laying emphasis on development of both the economic as well as social sectors, by launching a number of programmes from time to time in various plan period, it has been the mis-match in the rate of growth in the two sectors that has precipitated imbalances in the all round development. It is an acknowledged fact that the growth rate in economic sector is faster and its impact becomes more conspicuous in the short run, whereas, the growth rate in the social sector is painfully long. This fact has created many socio-economic angularities manifesting in the form of regional disparities, unemployment, poverty, marginalization of deprived sections, and rural to urban migration. These angularities have not only persisted with the time but have also grown and become more sharp, there by threatening the overall growth achieved so far. Therefore, for holistic growth, the development of both the sectors is a mandatory requirement and both should be taken as complimentary to each other. Emphasis on the development of one, at the cost of the other, would lead to disastrous consequences.

Study regarding the socio-economic transformation of any region provides the information about the imbalances in the socio-economic development with their causes. Hence such type of study is helpful in the development planning process of the region.

Review of Literature:

The knowledge of research work done in the past relating to the research problem under study is necessary and helpful to proceed in the

right direction. Researcher would be able to make an improvement over the existing studies and also expand the horizon of investigation. The review could also help refuting the concepts and statements made in earlier studies as well as for supporting the findings of the present study. The available literature having relevance to present study has been reviewed. Lot of work has been done in the field of economic geography and social geography at national and international level. But in the present study first part deals with the economic transformation and second one with the social transformation. These two portions if combined together through interdisciplinary relevance will definitely bring out the good outcome. Such type of work is done by the scholars related to department of planning. Few references are cited below.

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Choice of the Region and Topic:

For the study of Geographical Analysis of Socio-Economic Transformation in Osmanabad District is selected as a study region. The District of Osmanabad lies between $17^0$35' to $18^0$40' north latitudes and $75^0$16' to $76^0$40' east longitudes. It is surrounded by Beed district in the north, Latur district in the east, Solapur district in the south-west, Ahemadnagar district in north-west and Karnataka State in the south-east.

The Osmanabad district has an area of 7512.4 sq. km. and population 16,60,311 as per 2011 census. Out of the total population of the district 13,78,713 (83.04 percent) lives in rural areas while 2,81,598 (16.96 percent) lives in urban areas. The urban population

of the district is distributed among 8 urban centres which all are municipal towns; Osmanabad is the populous town stands at the top with 1,12,085 persons while Naldurg (18,357) stands at the bottom with respect to population.

The region under investigation will be influenced by several considerations.

I. Osmanabad district comprising eight tahsils of Maharashtra state has a significant location on Maharashtra plateau. District as a whole is monotonously under lain by Deccan trap basaltic lava flows. This lava flows on account of weathering and erosion which gives rise to undulating topography. The height of the region is ranging from 450 m. to 750 m. form mean sea level. On the basis of topography region is divided in to two basic units i.e. I. Balaghat Plateau and II. Western and South-Western region. As a result of these physical characteristics, make this region distinct physical entity and homogeneous unit for geographical investigation.

II. Climatically entire region falls in the rain shadow area. Climate of the region is generally dry except, during south-west monsoon season. There is a spatial and temporal variation in the distribution of rainfall. Most of the rainfall (84 percent) occurs mainly during the south-west monsoon period.

III. Soils of the region are mainly derived from trap rocks. Basaltic rock structure is the main parent material for the formation of soils. Agriculture is developed in the region on deep and medium black soils, where irrigation facilities are available.

IV. Economy of the region has an agrarian base. Out of the total working population nearly 80.00 percent working population is engaged in primary economic activities, especially in agriculture and allied activities.

V. There are 729 rural and 8 urban settlements in the study region.

VI. Out of the total population of the study region 16.96 percent is the urban population as per 2011 census.

VII. There are 8 urban centres in the study region namely, Paranda, Bhum, Kalamb, Osmanabad, Tuljapur, Naldurg, Murum and Umarga. Osmanabad is Class 'I' municipal town with district headquarter. Kalamb, Tuljapur and Umarga are Class 'III' municipal towns with tahsil headquarters. Paranda and Bhum towns are Class 'IV' municipal towns with tahsil headquarters and Naldurg and Murum towns are Class 'IV' municipal towns in the Tuljapur and Umarga tahsils respectively.

VIII. These urban centres act as service centres and play important role in the Socio-economic development of the study region.

IX. The study region has a fairly good system of road and rail network. Transport plays on important role in the economic development of the region and rural-urban interaction.

X. The physical and socio-economic environment of the region is fairly good for the development of urban centres.

XI. The author who is born and brought up in the study region i.e. Osmanabad district is quite aware and well acquainted with geographical environment of the area. So it helps to field work and required data collection for the purpose of study.

XII. The work on the "Social Transformation in Osmanabad District: A Geographical Study" has not been yet attempted by any geographer and such type of work can be useful for urban landuse planning, eradication of urban problems and implementation of developmental schemes. Therefore the author has selected this region and topic for the purpose of geographical investigation.

Objectives of the Study:

General objective of the present study will to assess the role of geographical factors in the socio-economic transformation of the study region.

The specific objectives of present studies are as follows.

1. To analyze the role of physical factors in the socio-economic development of the region.
2. To know the role of primary activities (agriculture and allied) in the economic development of the region.
3. To assess the role of secondary activities (agro based industries and others) in the economic development of the region.
4. To know the role of tertiary activities in the economic development of the region.
5. To know economic transformation (1994-95 to 2014-2015) in the study region.
6. To know the social transformation in the study region.
7. To study the levels of socio-economic development in the study region and causes behind the regional disparity in the development.

Database and Methodology:

Success of the research work depends upon the methodology adopted for the study. For the present study data will be collected through primary and secondary sources. Primary data will be obtained by preparing objective based interview schedule and questionnaire. Secondary data will be obtained from socio-economic reviews of the district, district census handbook, gazetteer, reports of the Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samiti, web site etc.

The data thus collected through primary and secondary sources will be classified, tabulated and analyzed by using various statistical techniques and presented by using appropriate cartographic methods.

In the present study various methods and techniques will have been used. However, it will not appropriate here to give all details. The details regarding various methods and techniques will be discussed in the thesis at appropriate places. For the purpose of survey work stratified sampling technique will be used.

To determine levels of socio-economic development in the study region indices will be selected. The selection of indices is of paramount significance in this respect. The indicators selected should clearly reflect the socio-economic picture of the component areal unit of the study area. The tahsils have been awarded proportionate weights on the basis of the data of the indicators.

The lowest value of *i* indicator in the tahsils X_1, X_2, X_3…. X_n (say in X_5) has been awarded the score of 1. The weights of i indicator in remaining tahsil will be determined on the basis of the following formula:

$$Wi\mathrm{x}_1 = \frac{\mathrm{i\,x}_1}{\mathrm{i\,x}_5}$$

Where,

Wix_1 = weight of i indicator in tahsil x_1

ix_1 = numerical value of i indicator in tahsil x_1

ix_5 = numerical value of i indicator in tahsil x_5

On the basis of the above formula, the weights of all the indicators in each tahsil will be computed and then composite scores have been obtained for all tahsils on the basis of the following formula:

$$Cx_1 = W_1X_1 + W_2X_1 + \ldots\ldots\ldots + W_nX_1$$

Where, CX_1 = composite score of tahsil X_1

Chapter Scheme:

The present study entitled, "Geographical Analysis of Socio-Economic Transformation in Osmanabad District (M.S.)" will be organized into seven chapters.

Chapter – I: Introduction

The first chapter will be contains the introduction of the problem, review of literature, choice of the region and topic, objectives of the study, data base and methodology, and chapter outline etc.

Chapter – II: Geographical Personality of the Study Region

The second chapter deals with the Physical and Socio-Economic aspects of the study area. Physical aspects like geographical location, relief, natural drainage system, climate, soil types, etc. and socio-economic aspects like irrigation, population, distribution of settlements, industrial development, transport and communication etc. in study area will be considered.

Chapter – III: Economic Transformation of the Region

The Third chapter deals with the economic transformation of the region. It includes the role of primary, secondary and tertiary economic activities in the economic development of the region over the period of

investigation (1994-95 to 2014-15). To assess the development in the field of agriculture various indicators will be considered. It also includes the study of transformation in the agro-based industries and others. The role of tertiary activities in the economic development will be assessed in this chapter.

Chapter – IV: Social Transformation of the Region

The fourth chapter deals with the social transformation in the region. In this chapter transformation in the field of family structure, changes in caste relations and institutions, population structure, education facilities, health care facilities, drinking water facilities, gobar-gas plants etc. points will be assessed.

Chapter – V: Levels of Socio-Economic Development

The fifth chapter deals with the levels of socio-economic development in the region under study. In this chapter to determine levels of socio-economic development in the study region important indices will be selected to reflect the clear cut socio-economic picture of the component areal unit. The tahsils will be awarded proportionate weights on the basis of the data of the indicators. On the basis of the composite scores of the tahsils, they will grouped into five levels of development.

Chapter – VI: Analysis of Survey Work

The Sixth chapter includes the analysis of the survey work. Field work or survey work will be universally respected approach to study of geography, as it is a primary source of data. In the preceding chapters attempt will be made to highlight the various aspects of socio-economic transformation in the study region. In this chapter survey work will be attempted, to observe personally the situation in the region regarding the socio-economic transformation to strengthen the results.

Chapter – VII: Summary and Conclusions

Last chapter deals with the summary and conclusions. The results emerged from the analysis of data in the preceding chapters will give in this chapter. This chapter also includes problems related with socio-economic development of study region. The important suggestions will give in this chapter to improve the overall condition of the study area.

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